

Dear FCC, I have only fairly recently learned of efforts to allow digital signals in the format of Broadband internet access over powerlines. A careful review of the subject reveals a frightening level of inherent associated interference with existing radio services over an encompassing range of highly utilized frequencies, both for broadcast and communication.

Recently, at the medical center where I work as an attending physician, I have become involved in organizing emergency communications facilities and human resources at hf as well as vhf and uhf for local and regional needs. As an amateur radio licensee of forty years experience including significant mobile hf experience, I am alarmed both by the broadband character and the strength of pulse-type interference demonstrated to result from in-service BPL systems in the communities tested.

Deployment of this type of service would have disastrous effects on amateur radio, shortwave broadcast reception, and a broad segment of radio services currently in place. Although Amperion and other companies simply state "some RF radiation interference might occur" it's clear that this would be extremely difficult to mitigate to any extent and almost certainly result in markedly reduced quality communications or NO communications in many if not most situations where desired.

The effect on an already assaulted spectrum if not immediately lethal would no doubt impose a very possibly fatal condition to amateur radio and therefore all of its public service activity and base in this country, further weakening our ability to respond both to natural disasters (primarily weather-related in Louisiana) and local needs, but also to today's real threat of terrorist activity and weapons of mass destruction. The recent power blackout in the northeast again demonstrated the utility of amateur radio as a cost-free effective service in our society.

Please consider carefully the claims of Amperion and other companies as to the RF interference BPL would permeate our cities with...examine the simple, but effective and practical testing and assessment done by the ARRL in areas where testing of BPL has been implemented. One can only conclude that the destruction of radio reception and serious interference to it in our country is not balanced by the addition of another commercial broadband internet service mode.

Steven N. Bienvenu, MD